MALVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1970

M A L V E R N U R B A N D I S T R I C T

A N N U A L R E P O R T

by

H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

and

JAMES B. FRANKS, M.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR 1970

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COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

HIGHWAYS AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

MR. G. H. V. BLYTHE

MRS. B. E. BOMPHREY

MR. R. CRAFT (CHAIRMAN)

MR. R. F. HOLLAND, J.P. (Ex. Officio)

MR. A. E. HOLMES

MR. W. J. MARSH

MRS. D. G. MORTIMER

MR. R. C. STORER

MRS. D. A. TAYLOR (Ex. Officio)

MR. J. V. H. TOMPKINS

HOUSING COMMITTEE

MRS. B. E. BOMPHREY

MR. R. W. GREEN

MR. R. F. HOLLAND, J.P. (Ex. Officio)

MR. A. E. HOLMES

MR. E. P. O'NEILL

MR. H. D. PARKER

MR. A. M. SIMPSON

MR. H. W. T. SQUIBB (CHAIRMAN)

MRS. D. A. TAYLOR

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector (Retired 13.3.70)	H. L. WHITWHAM, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector (From 14.3.70)	J. B. FRANKS, M.A.P.H.I.
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	G. J. AINSCOUGH, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Assistant Public Health Inspector	M. MILLEN, M.A.P.H.I.
Chief Clerk	E. C. BARBER
Typist/Clerk	C. F. TUSTIN

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

THE COUNCIL HOUSE

MALVERN.

Telephone: Malvern 61531

The Council House,
Malvern.

October, 1971.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1970. As you will see from the contents and various figures given in the tables a great deal of routine work is carried out each year. Sometimes we have dramatic events which need to be reported in the Annual Report, but for most part the work is of a routine nature and a dull report is to the Department a source of satisfaction. It is interesting to note that the expected measles epidemic occured during this year and ninety-seven cases were reported. In previous measles 'years' we have had to report up to three hundred cases and it must be assumed that the measles vaccination carried out is bearing fruit.

I am pleased to say that the mantle of peaceful co-operation has been handed down by Mr. H. L. Whitwham, and there is in the Department a team spirit which enables the work to be done with the minimum of fuss. I should like to thank all members of staff for their part in the year's work.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. F. GREEN.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

Area of land and inland water	7,400 acres
Registrar General's estimate of resident population	29,950
Number of dwelling houses	9,579
Total number of assessments	127.201
Rateable value at 31.3.71	£1,128.119
Sum represented by a penny rate at 31.3.71	£10.720

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

Live Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population)	18.5
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	8.0
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimate resident population	0.1
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimate resident population)	9.9
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	25.0

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES 1970

Live Births (per 1,000 total population)	16.0
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 live and still births)	13.0
Death Rate (per 1,000 home population)	11.7
Infantile Mortality (per 1,000 live births)	18.0

DEATHS

Causes of Death - All Ages	Total	Male	Female
Enteritis and other Diarrhoeal Diseases	2	1	1
Cancer (all forms)	66	33	33
Cancer (of lung and bronchus)	13	11	2
Leukaemia	1	1	-
Diabetes Mellitus	4	-	4
Anaemias	3	-	3
Mental Disorders	1	-	1
Meningitis	1	-	1
Disease of Heart and Arteries	181	77	104
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis and Cancer)	34	16	18
Diseases of Digestive System	7	2	5
Other diseases, Genito-urinary system	3	2	1
Diseases of Skin, subcutaneous tissue	1	1	-
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal system	3	1	2
Congenital Anomalies	3	2	1
Birth injury, difficult labour, etc.	3	2	1
Other causes of Perinatal Mortality	2	2	-
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	8	1	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	1
All other Accidents	8	3	5
Suicide and Self-inflicted injuries	1	1	-
All other external causes	3	1	2

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Water Supplies

There are two main sources of Malvern Water. First a deep borehole at Bromsberrow which has been sunk in new red sandstone. It provides an abundant and good water supply showing an average total hardness of 21. It is not contaminated in any way. The second is water collected from the hills around the British Camp, the reservoir lying in a hollow in these hills. This supply is more in the nature of a stand by than a main supply, and the analysis is typical of hill water that it, contains few "Solids in Solution" and having a low total hardness.

The monthly bacteriological examination of water taken from taps at various points in the town mains supply was uniformly satisfactory showing the absence of faecal coli on each occasion.

MALVERN WATER

Physical Characters		7th September, 1970.
Colour		Colourless
Odour		None
Deposit		None
pH		7.0

Chemical Examination	(Results expressed in parts per million)	
Solids in Solution	(Dried at 180°C)	280
" " "	After Ignition	165
Chlorine as Cl		17
Hardness Non-Carbonate		40
" Carbonate		176
" Total		216
Ammoniacal Nitrogen		Nil
Albuminoid Nitrogen		Nil
Nitrate Nitrogen		5.3
Nitrite Nitrogen		Nil
Permanganate Value	(4 hours at 27°C)	Trace
Toxic Metals		None detected
Total Residual Chlorine		Nil

Water Supply from Wells

Only a few houses are supplied with water obtained from shallow wells. Samples are submitted from time to time to the Laboratory for analysis.

Public Cleansing

This work is carried out under the direction of the Engineer and Surveyor. The disposal of household refuse is undertaken at the Guarlford Sewerage Works by means of tipping. Street sweeping in central area daily, elsewhere once weekly. Cesspool emptying by mechanical means as required.

Swimming Baths and Pools

(a) Public Pool	-	Public Pool owned by Local Authority
(b) Privately owned Pools open to the Public	-	None
(c) Action taken to ensure the satisfactory condition of water	-	Frequent visits and bacteriological and chemical analysis.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Services

Chemical analysis is carried out by arrangement with the County Laboratory at Worcester. Bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Clinics

There are none provided by this Authority.

The following clinics are provided by the Worcestershire County Council:-

Infant Welfare Centres

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	Wednesdays	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Sydenham Villa, Newtown Road	Tuesdays	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Methodist Church School Room Lansdowne Crescent	1st Friday in the month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Wyche Institute, Lower Wyche	1st Tuesday in the month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
St. Mary's Church Hall, Sherrards Green	Fridays	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Parish Hall, West Malvern	1st Monday in the month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.
Wood Farm Camp, Malvern Wells	4th Monday in the month	2.00 - 4.00 p.m.

School Clinic

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	Fridays (by appointment)	9.30 - 12.00 noon

Chiropody

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	Monday	all day
	Tuesday	all day
	Wednesday	morning
	Friday	all day

Applications from Old Age Pensioners, Expectant Mothers and Handicapped People should be made to the County Medical Officer, Worcester.

Dental

The Grove School, Pickersleigh Grove	by appointment	Applications made to Principal Dental Officer, Worcester

Occulist

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	by appointment	Applications made to County Medical Officer, Worcester

Hearing

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	by appointment	Applications made to County Medical Officer, Worcester

Family Planning

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	Thursdays	7.00	-	8.30 p.m.

Relaxation

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	Thursdays by appointment	2.00	-	4.30 p.m.

Speech Therapy

The Clinic, Victoria Park Road	Mondays & Fridays (cases referred by School Health Service)	9.30	-	12.00 noon

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following table shows the number of infectious diseases notified during 1970:-

Disease	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-9	10-14	15-24	25+	N.K.
Measles	97	4	10	9	14	13	38	4	-	1	4
Infective Jaundice	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-
Scarlet Fever	12	-	-	-	4	-	8	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	45	4	1	7	5	4	19	2	-	3	-

PROPHYLAXIS

Diptheria Immunisation	Ages 0 - 4 years	Ages 5 - 16 years	Total
Children who received a full course of primary immunisation	300	9	309
Children who received a re-inforcing injection	87	379	466
Whooping Cough Immunisation			
Children who completed a primary course of immunisation	294	4	298
Tetanus Immunisation			
Children who completed a primary course of immunisation	300	48	348
Children who received a re-inforcing injection	90	644	734

Smallpox Vaccination

Under 1 yearr	1 - 2 years	2 - 4 years	5 - 16 years	Total
10	199	43	7	259

The Department of Health and Social Security recommends that routine primary vaccination is not advisable during the first few weeks of life. It should be carried out at some time before the age of two years, preferably during the second year.

Measles Vaccination

Year of Birth	1970	1969	1968	1967	1963-1966	1954-1962	Total
	1	136	145	76	237	8	603

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 SECTION 47

Two persons were removed to hospital under the 1951 amending Act of the National Assistance Act.

The Council House,
Malvern.

October, 1971.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the following report which deals with the work and responsibilities of your Public Health Inspectors' and make no apology for commenting mainly on the Housing Act, 1969, and its affect on Improvement Grants.

The real implication of the legislation was not felt until the beginning of the year when a marked increase in enquiries and applications were registered.

There is no doubt that the new Discretionary Grant with a ceiling of £1,000, the removal of the three year conditions, and the inclusion of works of repair and replacement incidental to the improvement were instrumental in giving incentive to owners to modernise their properties.

The Standard Grant was also increased from £155 to £200 and of the fifty-eight Standard Grants made during the year twenty-two were in tenanted property, which is most encouraging.

A facet of this legislation is that the £1,000 grant per unit is available to assist in the conversion of large houses into self contained flats. There is a very obvious need for accommodation of this type, Malvern has a fairly large number of these properties and it is hoped that the owners of such houses will take full advantage of the Grant Schemes.

The Act also provides for making general improvement areas, and though this has been borne in mind we have not yet been able to commence detailed surveys. It is hoped to include it in our programme during the coming years.

Finally I should like to comment on Mr. Whitwham's recent retirement after more than thirty years as Chief Public Health Inspector for this Council. Always he was kindly and courteous to everyone he met in the course of his varied duties, but above all he was held in very real respect and affection by those of us who were priviliged to work closely with him.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. B. FRANKS.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS

Inspection of Shops	173
" " Factories	194
" " Offices, Shops and Railway Premises	512
" " Bakehouses	10
" " Restaurant Kitchens	237
" " Outworkers Premises	1
" " Butchers Shops, P.H. Meat Regs.	164
" " Stables and Piggeries	18
" " Dairies	64
" " Food Shops	674
" " Fish Friers	30
" " Places of Public Entertainment	6
" " Schools	19
" " Licensed Premises	27
" " Public Conveniences	12
Special Visits, Advisory Interviews, etc.	2,972
Visits re:- Infectious Disease	16
Rat Infestations	286
Atmospheric Pollution	91
Noise Abatement	87
Miscellaneous	321
National Assistance Act	14
Housing including Inspections of Dwelling Houses	890
Petroleum Storage Installation	214
	6,732

COMPLAINTS

The Register shows that 612 complaints were received during the year under review, these having reference to the following matters:-

Blocked and Defective Drainage	28
Defective Closet Accommodation	3
Defective Conditions in Dwelling Houses	47
Offensive Odours from Drains	11
Non-collection of House Refuse	8

Verminous Premises	35
Wasps' Nests	66
Infestations of Rats and Mice	266
Food and Drugs Act	34
Clean Air Act	4
Noise Abatement Act	26
Miscellaneous	84

RENT ACT 1957

No action taken during 1970.

LAND CHARGES ACT 1925

Requests for information concerning properties on which a Search for Local Land Charges is made to the Clerk of the Council are dealt with by this department where applicable; 818 enquiries were investigated during the year.

HOUSING ACT 1969

Discretionary Improvement Grants

Applications concerning the conversion of two dwellings into flats and the improvement of sixteen dwellings were received. During this period two conversion and seventeen improvement grants were approved.

Standard Improvement Grants

Sixty applications were received, all of which were investigated. Fifty-eight applications were approved, nine of which were higher limit grants, covering the erection of bathrooms. Twenty-six of these houses are owner-occupied and twenty-two tenanted. The amenities provided were as follows:-

40 baths

46 wash-hand basins

52 hot water supplies

45 water closets

24 sinks

The following table shows comparitive figures over the past nine years:-

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Discretionary grants approved	11	20	15	12	13	24	8	8	19
Standard grants approved	21	41	26	23	30	39	34	41	58
	32	61	41	35	43	63	42	49	77

HOUSING ACT 1957

Two dwellings were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders:-

Chapel Cottage, Park Road

10 Bank Street

Demolition Orders were made in respect of the following properties:

55 Hayes Bank Road

45, 47 & 47a Newtown Road

10 Bank Street

A Closing Order was made in respect of two rooms at 16 Cowleigh Bank (let as a separate unit until recently).

OVERCROWDING IN DWELLING HOUSES

Eight new cases of overcrowding were reported or discovered. This increased the number of cases on our records to eighteen.

The cases mainly refer to overcrowding of rooms normally used for sleeping purposes in excess of the statutory "permitted" number.

During the year twelve cases were abated, thus, leaving six on record. Ten families were rehoused by the Council and two obtained their own accommodation. The cases are placed in the following categories:-

(a)	Increase where one family are sole occupants	2 cases
(b)	Increase where family is in lodgings	6 cases
(c)	Married son or daughter making home with the in-laws	4 cases

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

In accordance with usual practice, and where necessary, investigations relating to infectious disease are made, on notification to the Medical Officer of Health.

Three loads of bedding were steam disinfected and three loads of bedding destroyed. Twenty rooms were fumigated. Infestations of cockroaches, bed bugs, carpet beetles, ants, flies and fleas were dealt with at various premises.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1963

Application for renewal of a licence in respect of premises, already used in a small way for boarding of cats and dogs, was received.

An inspection was made and a licence was subsequently issued.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

This Act came into operation on the 1st July, 1965, and provides among other requirements that no person may carry on the business of a scrap metal dealer unless he is registered by the Council.

Eight persons are now registered.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

The provision of the Factories Act 1961, which your Council has to administer, chiefly relate to the following matters:-

1. Factories where mechanical power is used

   (a) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes.

2. Factories where mechanical power is not used

   (a) Cleanliness

   (b) Overcrowding

   (c) Ventilation

   (d) Drainage

   (e) Provision and maintenance of sanitary conveniences for both sexes

   (f) Temperature control

3. Sanitary Regulations for Bakehouses

4. Homework

The following table shows the list of factories on the Register:-

Agricultural Engineers	2
Automatic Packing and Weighing Machine Manufacturers	1
Bakehouses	5
Bread Slicing and Wrapping	1
Blacksmiths	2
Bicyle Repairs	1
Boot Repairs	3
Breeze Block Manufacturers	1
Builders	2
Clothing Manufacturers	1
Concrete Slabs	2
Construction Engineers	1
Coppersmiths and Engineers	1
Dairies	2
Dairy Engineers	1
Dental Laboratory	1
Diesel Engine Repairs	1
Dressmaking, Millinery, etc.	4
Dry Cleaners	1

Electrical Instrument Manufacturers	1
Electrical Switchgear Assembly	1
Fabricated Steel Products	1
Fireplace Manufacturers	1
Flexible Plastic Ventilating Tubes	1
Fruit Canners	1
General Engineering	8
Glass Syringes	1
Glove Making	1
Hemp Drying and Processing	1
Joinery	18
Laundry	1
Light Engineers	1
Machinery Repairs	1
Machine Tool Manufacturers	1
Marine Dealer	1
Metal Turning	1
Motor Cycle Repairs	1
Motor Cycle Cables	1
Motor Manufacturers	1
Motor Vehicle Body Repairs and Spraying	5
Motor Repairs	27
Organ Building	1
Photographic	2
Piano Repairs	1
Plant Repairs	2
Plastic Mouldings, etc.	3
Polishes and Dressings	1
Pottery	1
Precision Engineers	2
Printers	3
Road Tanker Manufacturers	1
Roofing Contractors	1
Sausage Making	10

Saw Mills	1
Sheet Metal Work	1
Spectacle Manufacturers	1
Stonemasons	2
Tailoring	2
Transformers	1
Tinsmiths	2
Tools and Dyes	1
Toy Distributors	1
Tyre Repairs	1
Upholsterers	6
Water Works	1
Watch Repairs	3
Wireless, Television and Electrical Repairs	10

The number of inspections made of factories are as follows, the table being in accordance with the requirements of the Home Office:-

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	44	86	6	-
Factories not included above which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	126	108	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	176	194	6	-

Cases in which defects were found:-

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instigated
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	1	1	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	6	-	-	-

OUTWORK - Part V111 of the Act Sections 110 and 111

Section 110		Section 111		
No. of out-workers in August list reqd. by Section 110 (1) (C)	No. of cases of default in sending list to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel Making, etc. 1	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and Washing -	-	-	-	-
TOTAL 1	-	-	-	-

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

At the 31st December, 1970, the number of registered premises was two hundred and sixty-six, as under:-

Offices	79
Retail Shops	165
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	5
Catering Establishments open to the Public	14
Fuel Storage Depots	3

Section 60 of this Act requires that annual reports are made to the Minister in a specified form. A statistical report on the procedure was duly sent to the appropriate office early in the year.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The number of retail dairymen or milk purveyors is now sixteen. Distribution of milk is kept under observation. Vehicles used for this purpose are frequently inspected.

Sixty-two visits were made to dairy premises for the purpose of inspection or to collect samples of milk on arrival from the place of production.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1963

Samples of milk are taken to the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester for statutory and phosphatase examination, details are as follows:-

Statutory examinations were carried out on thirty-eight samples of milk and all conformed to the required standard.

Thirty-eight samples of pasteurised milk subjected to the phosphatase test with satisfactory results.

ICE CREAM

Ninety-one premises are now registered for the sale of ice cream. Most of the ice cream is sold prepacked. Inspections are made as to the means of storage and the methods of dispensing this commodity.

FOOD HYGIENE

The following table required by the Department of Health and Social Security, sets out the various types of businesses embraced in the general term food premises, which call for supervision to maintain the standards required by the provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations:-

List of Food Premises	No.	Compliance with Reg. 16	Compliance with Reg. 19
Baker and Confectioners	12	12	7
Canteens	12	12	12
Dairies	1	1	1
General Stores	12	12	4
Grocers	45	45	33
Hotels	22	22	22
Licensed Premises	51	51	51
Butchers	21	21	21
Confectioners and Sweets	20	20	-
Fishmongers	6	6	6
Fish Friers	3	3	3
Greengrocers	13	13	10
Restaurants and Refreshment Rooms	17	17	16
TOTAL	235	249	186

The number of premises which are required to comply with Regulation 19 in one hundred and eighty-six.

UNSOUND FOOD

The following is a list of unsound meat and other foods examined by your Inspectors at food premises and subsequently destroyed. Disposal of unsound food by incineration being no longer possible it has become necessary to bury all condemned foodstuffs. Every precaution is taken and the work is undertaken by our Disinfection Operator:-

Fresh Fish 21 lbs. 8 oz.; 37 x 3 lb. tins Chicken breasts 111 lbs.; 5 tins Cooked boneless Shoulder 50 lbs.; 7 tins Ham 40 lbs.; 5 tins Ox Tongue 30 lbs.; 13 tins Corned Beef 25 lbs.; 197 tins Fruit 290 lbs.; 27 tins miscellaneous foodstuffs 18 lbs.; 22 bars Chocolate.

Refrigeration breakdown: 229 packets miscellaneous foods 3 cwt 14 lbs.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

This Act prescribes certain standards of cleanliness in the manufacture use and storage of rag flock and other filling materials, and provides for the registration of upholsterers and certain other businesses, such as toymakers and licensing of manufacturers of rag flock, etc.

Two premises are registered under the provision of this Act.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

It was not necessary to institute legal proceedings in 1970.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

The very nature of noise, which has been defined as "sound which is undesirable or unacceptable to the hearer" makes the task of investigating complaints of noise a difficult and complex one. The recent purchase of a sound level meter has helped considerably, but the Health Inspector must consider not only the mechanical measurement of the noise, but also the environment and character of the neighbourhood, the physical characteristics of the noise and then finally estimate the degree of annoyance that the noise will cause.

Complaints of noise are increasing, and the majority of them refer to late night noise, which results in unusually late working hours for investigation.

This year was notable for the number of complaints due to the increasing use of explosive bird scaring devices by farmers with crops close to residential areas. These should not be in use during the hours of darkness, but all too frequently the periodic explosions go on late into the night.

We have finally convinced all employers making use of pneumatic road drills to incorporate mufflers around the barrel of their machines. The reduction of noise must be of great benefit, not only to the public but also to the machine operator who in the past has been exposed to a high level of noise over many hours each day.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The routine rodent control surveys have been carried out throughout the district. Particular attention has been given to the sewers and refuse tips where surveys and treatments are regularly maintained. The water courses and ditches in the rural part of the town are also frequently inspected and all minor infestations are speedily followed up.

I am pleased to record that our Operative is conscientious and efficient in his work.

CONCLUSION

I wish to thank Dr. Green for his personal interest in our various duties and the many problems arising therefrom, and to the Clerk of the Council and his staff for the co-operation in matters relating to this department.

Thanks are also due to the Surveyor and his staff for their assistance and liason in the numerous matters which are the concern of our respective departments.

I should like to add my personal thanks to all members of the staff for the loyal services and support, particularly during my first year as Head of the Department.

I have also to thank the Chairman of the Highways and Health Committee and the Housing Committee who have shown interest and consideration in matters pertaining to the department.

J. B. FRANKS.
Chief Public Health Inspector.